

REMARKS

The specification was objected to because the feature recited in originally-filed Claim 5 was not discussed in the narrative portion of the specification. Page 5 of the specification has been amended to describe this feature. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The office action states that “it is unclear as to how a person of ordinary skill in the art could obtain a subset of an array that has a first dimension which is at least 5 times greater than the second dimension.” Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is clearly disclosed in the specification. For example, Figure 2 illustrates a 7x7 array of 49 pixels with a 2x5 subset of 10 pixels. However, the specification discloses that a preferred subset (referred to as a “virtual slit” on page 5) is 31x3 pixels. Such a subset would have a first dimension of 31 pixels and second dimension of 3 pixels. 31 is at least five times greater than 3. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification discloses to one of ordinary skill in the art how to obtain the subset of Claim 9. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over the combination of Dunne and Chu. This rejection is traversed. The office action relies on Dunne as disclosing step (c) of Claim 1, “incrementing the subset along at least one dimension without increasing the overall dimensions of the subset.” An example of this step can be seen with reference to Figures 2, 3, and 4 of the specification in which the 2x5 pixel subset is incremented along the column direction in one column increments without increasing the overall dimensions (2 pixels by 5 pixels) of the subset. Thus, the incrementing step refers to incrementing the position of the subset in the array.

The Office Action relies on col. 5, lines 47-56 for the disclosure of this step. This passage discusses that scanner signals (which range from 0 to 4.0 density units in increments of 0.25

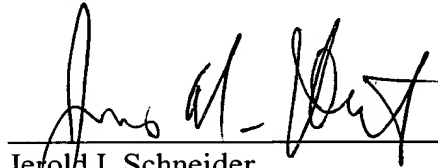
density units (for a total of 17 possible levels) are processed by an iterative correction loop and the resulting (corrected values) are converted to colorimetric data and are stored in a look-up-table.) This passage is discussing correcting the data in the array, not incrementing the position of the subset in the array as required by Claim 1. Accordingly, Dunne fails to disclose step (c). Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Figures 2, 3, and 4 were corrected to correct a typographical errors.

In light of the above, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and therefore request favorable consideration. If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' counsel, James M. Heintz, at (202) 861-4167.

Respectfully submitted,

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